From: huott@suntest2.crd.ge.com@inetgw

To: Microsoft ATR

Date: 1/23/02 2:45pm

Subject: Microsoft Settlement

To whom it may concern:

I am strongly opposed to the Proposed Final Judgment in United States v. Microsoft (http://www.usdoj.gov/atr/cases/ms-settle.htm). I do not believe it will remedy the wrongs caused by the Microsoft monopoly nor will it do enough to prevent Microsoft from continuing monopolistic behavior in the future.

As an engineer and consultant who has worked for many years in the computer and software industry, I believe Microsoft's past and ongoing behavior has done and continues to do serious damage to competition and innovation in the field. It has had a negative impact on my livelihood and, worse, my ability to propose the best, most reliable and cost effective solutions for my customers and employers.

The drawbacks to the proposed settlement are many and have been well documented by many others far more articulately than I can express here. The following link is a good place to start for reading some of these opinions, the majority of which I agree with wholeheartedly (see the section "Essays"):

http://www.kegel.com/remedy/

Please do not let this flawed settlement turn Microsoft into an effective state sponsored private monopoly. That is the absolute *last* thing our down economy needs right now.

Sincerely, <ED> --Ed Huott Information Management Services GE Corporate Research & Development Schenectady, NY (518) 387-6541

*Note: The opinions expressed here are my own and do not necessarily reflect those of my employer or the General Electric company.